

17 March 2006
Friday

READINGS

Psalms 69; Genesis 43:1-15 ; 1st Corinthians 7:1-9; Mark 4:35-41

DEVOTION

Do you ever feel busy, buried, and behind? Do you feel like you are like the rat on a wheel – running 100 miles per hour but just don't seem to be getting anywhere?

If you said yes, then you aren't alone. One of the greatest leaders in the Bible felt a lot like you. In the first four verses of Psalms 69, David cries out to God saying, "I'm sinking in the miry depths, where there is no foothold... the flood waters engulf me. I am worn out calling for help..." Being a Soldier isn't easy. The daily battle rhythm is constantly interrupted by minor and major problems that set us behind in our work. We make decisions about people's lives that may put them in harms way, and there is stress. Our work, our family situations, our peers, leaders, and Soldiers can put us on edge. We may be easily frustrated, and internally may even panic a little. Sometimes the more we try and control our situation, the more out of control we feel. Where is God during these times?

In Mark 4:35-41, we find Jesus and the disciples crossing the Sea of Galilee. A furious squall rises and the disciples panic. The more they try and control the boat the worse it gets and where is Jesus? Sleeping. When the disciples wake him, he rebukes the winds and all is calm again. Amazing! When all seemed lost, Jesus was there fully in control.

Where is God when we feel out of control? He's right there, waiting for us to give up control of our problems to Him. It's that simple. To gain control of our lives so that we aren't busy, buried and behind; we give it up to Jesus. Our lives will never be perfect, we'll never have full control of every situation, but we can live in the greater peace and love of God when we have faith and let him work His will in our lives.

Prayer: Father God, I give up my attempts to control the uncontrollable. I know that You are in full control of my life. Grant me peace in Your plan for me. Thank you for lifting me up out of the dark waters and I will praise You to the end of my days.

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